

Care and protection order (CPO) DSS Pilot (2010)

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Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Set Specification
METEOR identifier:	433756
Registration status:	Community Services (retired) , Recorded 19/08/2011
DSS type:	Data Set Specification (DSS)

Scope:

The Care and protection order Data Set Specification (DSS) contains information about all care and protection orders ever issued to the clients in the Child protection and support services (CPSS) client DSS. This includes care and protection orders that were issued and/or applicable during the reference period and also those from previous years, as well as orders that were discharged in previous years. Children should be counted in the state or territory where the order is operative, regardless of where the child is residing.

The following care and protection orders/arrangements are included in the scope of the collection:

- Guardianship or custody orders sought through a court, which have been finalised, and have the impact of transferring custody or guardianship.
- Third party parental responsibility where all duties, powers, responsibilities and authority parents are entitled to by law, are transferred to a third party, which may be another individual such as a relative, or an officer of the state.
- Supervisory and other finalised orders which give the department some responsibility for the child's welfare, excluding interim orders.
- Interim and temporary orders which generally provide for a limited period of supervision and/or placement of a child, including orders that are not finalised, and care applications.
- Administrative arrangements or agreements with the child protection departments, which have the same effect as a court order of transferring custody or guardianship. These arrangements can also allow a child to be placed in out-of-home care without going through the courts.
- Assessment orders to enable the assessment of the child for the purposes of determining whether the child is in need of protection and/or the parent has the capacity to exercise parental responsibility for the child.

The following are out of scope for this collection:

- Children on offence orders unless they are also on a care and protection order (as defined above).
- Administrative and voluntary arrangements with the Department responsible for child protection which do not have the effect of transferring custody or guardianship.

Each new order a child is placed on will be a new line in the file, delineated by a start and expiry date.

The collection is relevant to any child on an order or other formal arrangement. This covers any child for whom state/territory child protection and support services has a responsibility as a result of some formal legal order or an administrative/voluntary arrangement. Only orders issued for protective reasons are included.

A legal or administrative order is any lawful direction which involves state and territory child protection and support services with a child over and above what is generally considered normal for most children, or which has an assumption that the department will have carriage of the order (or a substantial part of it). The involvement might take the form of total responsibility for the welfare of the child (for example, guardianship), responsibility for overseeing the actions of the person or authority caring for the child, responsibility for providing or arranging accommodation or reporting or giving consideration to the child's welfare. Depending on the state or territory regulation under which the order is issued, the order can be from a Court, Children's Panel, Minister of the Crown, authorised child protection and support services department officer (for example, director) or similar tribunal or officer.

Collection and usage attributes

Comments: The 2010 unit record collection is a pilot test, therefore the implementation of the unit record data collection across all jurisdictions has not been finalised. The pilot test is a non-mandatory data set specification, rather than a national minimum data set specification, and is subject to change. A final unit record child protection NMDS will be developed when the results from the pilot/dress rehearsal testing are obtained and evaluated.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Performance and Data Working Group

Steward: [National Community Services Information Management Group \(NCSIMG\)](#)

Origin: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) 2010. Child protection and support services National Minimum Data Set, data collection manual for the 2010 pilot collection. AIHW: Canberra.

Reference documents: AIHW 2011. Child protection Australia 2009-10. Child welfare series no. 51. Cat. no. CWS 39. Canberra: AIHW.

Council of Australian Governments 2009. Protecting Children is Everyone's Business. National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children 2009-2020. FACHSIA. Viewed 18 March 2011, <http://www.fahcsia.gov.au/sa/families/pubs/framework_protecting_children/Pages/default.aspx>

Relational attributes

Related metadata references: Supersedes [Child protection and support services \(CPSS\) - care and protection order episode NMDS pilot \(2008\) Community Services \(retired\)](#), Retired 06/02/2012

Implementation in Data Set Specifications: [Child protection and support services \(CPSS\) DSS Pilot \(2010\) Community Services \(retired\)](#), Recorded 19/08/2011

Metadata items in this Data Set Specification

Seq No.	Metadata item	Obligation	Max occurs
-	Child protection notification—identifier, NX[X(13)]	Conditional	1
	<i>Conditional obligation:</i>		
	Only applicable if the jurisdiction records a notification identifier.		
	<i>DSS specific information:</i>		
	This data element should align with the identifier recorded in the Notifications, investigations, and substantiations (NIS) DSS.		
	This not a mandatory field and there will be cases where children are on an order without a preceding notification.		
-	Child—first care and protection order indicator, yes/no/not stated/inadequately described code N	Mandatory	1
	<i>DSS specific information:</i>		
	In the Care and protection order episode DSS, this data element refers to whether the current order is the first time an order has been applied to an individual within a specific jurisdiction.		

Seq No.	Metadata item	Obligation	Max occurs
-	Order episode—order start date, DDMMYYYY	Mandatory	1
	DSS specific information:		
	An entry date should be recorded for each separate care and protection order episode of the child.		
	A new episode will begin and an entry date will be recorded in the following circumstances:		
	A child is placed on a care and protection order for the first time in their life.		
	A child is placed on a higher level order than the one they are currently on.		
	The higher level order expires and the child is placed on a lower level order. This date will be recorded once the higher level order expires.		
	A child moves from one jurisdiction to another and the order is transferred to the second jurisdiction.		
	In some circumstances, the entry date will be the same as the exit date from a previous episode, e.g. when a child moves directly from one level order to a different level order.		
	This data item delineates a care and protection order episode and is qualified by reason for entry.		
	If the date is unknown, the date 01011900 should be provided.		
-	Order—order type, care and protection code N[N]	Mandatory	1
-	Person—order type (local), identifier X[50]	Mandatory	1
	DSS specific information:		
	This refers to the local code used within the jurisdiction to identify the type of care and protection order to which a child was subject.		
-	Person—order type (local), text A[A(99)]	Mandatory	1
	DSS specific information:		
	This refers to the local description within the jurisdiction of the type of care and protection order to which the child was subject.		
-	Person—person identifier, child protection NX[X(11)]	Mandatory	1

Seq Metadata item
No.

Obligation Max
occurs

- [Service episode—order end date, DDMMYYYY](#)

Conditional 1

Conditional obligation:

Only applicable if an order has expired.

DSS specific information:

An order expiry date is when the order the child is under is no longer applicable. This can be for a number of reasons including:

The child is placed on another type of order

The child turns 18 years

The child moves interstate/overseas

The child dies

The child is no longer considered by the child protection authority to be at risk/in need of protection.

The order expiry date should be recorded for each separate care and protection order. In some circumstances, the date of expiry will be the same as the entry date from a previous episode, e.g. when a child moves directly from one level order to another level order.

If the order did not expire during the year, the date 11111111 should be used to indicate this.

If the date is unknown, the date 01011900 should be provided.

- [Service episode—reason for order expiry, care and protection code N\[N\]](#)

Conditional 1

Conditional obligation:

Only applicable if an order has expired.